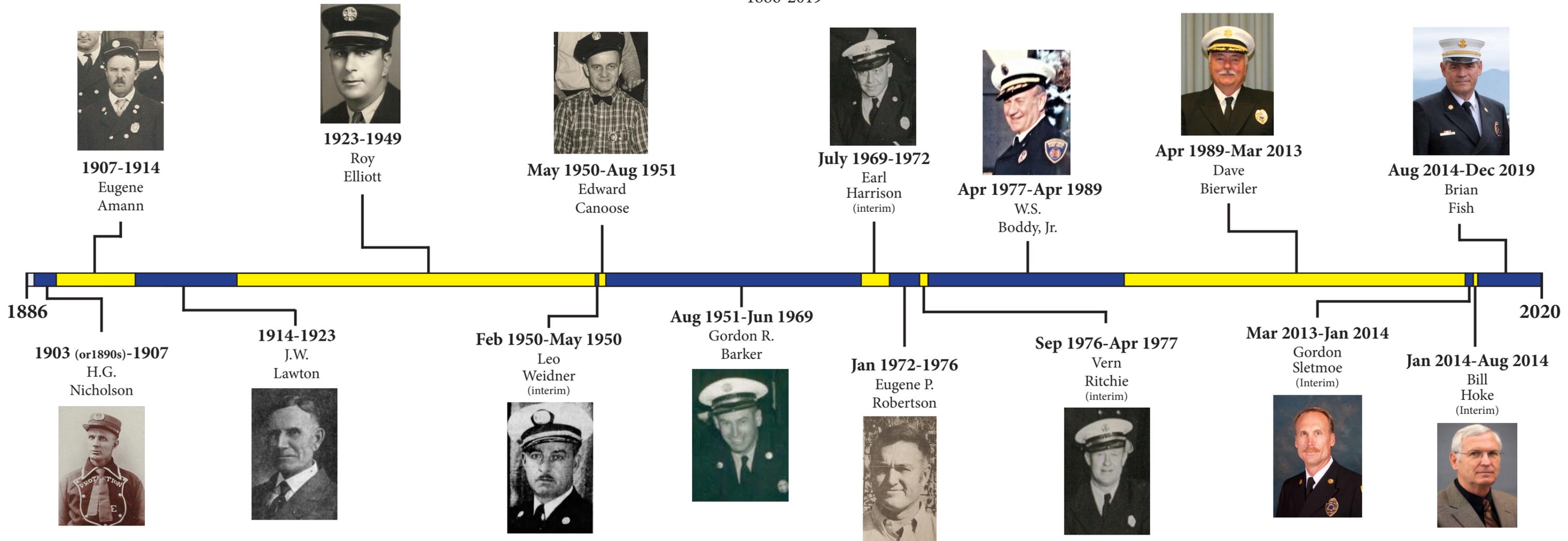


# Medford Fire-Rescue

## Fire Chief Timeline

1886-2019



1886: Medford purchases first fire equipment

1890: Medford Hose Company is organized. It is believed H.G. Nicholson is the equivalent of Chief (1890s list him as one of the original incorporators, 1st Asst. Foreman, Foreman, and Sergeant-at-Arms and is the only firefighter in the 1890s photos wearing a special tie around his neck).

1903: Horace Nicholson receives the official title of "Chief" when Protection Hose Co. No. 2 is created

1907: (there is brief mention of Chief J.H. Butler from one of the Hose Co., but unsure if this is accurate)

1908: Eugene Amann becomes Fire Chief and later becomes the first paid Chief

1914: Chief Amann resigns, Asst. Chief Harry Ling fills position (unknown how long <1 mo)

1914: J.W. Lawton is named Fire Chief

1923: Lawton is fired for being "too old", Roy Elliott becomes Fire Chief

1949: Roy Elliott retires at the end of the year

1950: Leo Weidner is hired as interim Chief in February, Ed Canoose takes over as Chief in May

1951: Gordon Barker becomes Fire Chief in August

1969: Chief Barker resigns in June due to health reasons, Earl Harrison becomes interim Chief in July

1972: Eugene P. Robertson takes over as Fire Chief in January

1976: Vern Ritchie is interim Chief beginning in September

1977: W.S. "Sid" Boddy Jr. becomes Fire Chief in April

1989: Chief Boddy retires and Dave Bierwiler is hired as Fire Chief in April

2013: Chief Bierwiler resigns in March, Gordon Sletmoe becomes interim Chief

2014: Bill Hoke (Assistant City Manager) takes over as interim Chief in January. Brian Fish is promoted to Fire Chief in August

2019: Chief Brian Fish retires at the end of November, but continues as Interim Chief until January 2020